



Climate & Environment Council Meeting Summary

May 31st, 2024

9–10:30 a.m.

MARC Broadway Room

600 Broadway, Ste. 200 Kansas City, Mo 64105

Members Present:

Andrew Ngui, KCMO
Alyssa Marcy, Unified Government
Andrew Savastino, KCMO
Brien Darby, Cultivate KC
Carl Stafford, My Region Wins
Christna Hoxie, Hoxie Collective
Ian Fannin-Hughes, JOCO
Lara Isch, OP

Emily Randel, Consultant/ KCMO Resident
Jackson Ward, Johnson County DHE
Stacia Pieroni, KC Zoo and Aquarium
Taylor Neff, MDC
William Neds, HDR
Kevin Kennedy
Gayle Bergman, OP
Lisa Maione, KCAI

Other Attendees:

Hillary Thomas, Climate Action KC

MARC Staff:

Emily Miller
Rachel Krause
Frank Lenk
Karen Clawson

Kate Ludwig
Martin Rivarola
Natalie Unruh
Tom Jacobs

1. **Welcome & Introductions (5 minutes)**
2. **Approval April meeting minutes* (1 minute)**
 - a. April meeting minutes approved
3. **CPRG – Greenhouse Gas Inventory (25 minutes)**
 - A. Inventory Process
 - a. Baseline inventory sectors: energy, buildings, transportation, waste management (partial), and industry (partial). The updated greenhouse gas inventory sectors will be updated with 2022 data. Partially inventoried sectors from the previous greenhouse gas inventory will be completed. New sectors

for this inventory include agriculture, forestry, and other land use. Another new aspect will be the estimation of carbon sinks.

Inventory forecasting for 2035, and 2050, sector-based targets, and overall inventory targets (2035 and 2050) will be included. An overall industry target for 2035 doesn't currently exist. MARC wants community input for 2035 targets, because we don't currently have sector-based targets. The goal is to base targets on predicted shifts for industries, I.E. transportation emissions will go down with electric cars but building emissions will go up because of electric vehicle chargers.

Sector subsectors will be included to help breakdown sectors to see more specific data about where emissions are coming from and how to address the sources. For example, electricity and district head (Grid- scope 2): Residential, commercial, industrial, based on fuel mix.

- i. Transportation: On-road, off-road, rail, air
- ii. The greenhouse gas inventory will add onto existing plans.
- iii. Direct GHG reduction: action=change in GHG
- iv. Indirect GHG reduction: strategy=change in process, policy, training, legal requirements, education
- v. Limitations include data variability by sector (zip code vs county vs region vs state), pre aggregated data, and selection of subsector estimation based on authority.

b. Discussion

- i. Question: What level of detail is needed? How will your organization use this data?
 1. Discussion at table: One helpful thing would be GHG emissions broken down by zip code, city, county, etc. Additionally, education based on specific measures and how much GHG emission reductions will come from it. Education on the misconception that cities produce more GHG emissions. Use the UC Berkley, Climate Change Network, GHG emissions map as a starting point for how the data could be visualized.

4. CPRG - Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (25 minutes)

A. CRVA

- a. Climate adaptation strategies- The goal is to reduce the risk of climate events and better adapt to prepare, absorb, and recover from climate risks. This informs the adaptation aspect of the climate action plan. There are four components of the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment. First data will be collected regarding the climate conditions including temperature and precipitation.

Second, a hazards and risk assessment will be taken to identify any hazard, its risk, and how it can be addressed. To determine what hazards need to be assessed, past events will be used as well as expected changes to intensity and frequency and risk level. Hazards can include flooding, extreme heat, drought, severe storms, tornados, and sever winter storms. Which sectors and services need

to be addressed first will be determined by the impacts of each hazard. Sectors and services can include: public health, energy, commercial, law and order, society, community and culture, and transport. These categories will be updated by the CRVA committee.

Third, a vulnerability assessment will be conducted to identify communities that are the most vulnerable to climate change. These groups will be identified through data collection, mapping, and engagement. Factors to determine vulnerable communities include: income, age, transportation access, housing. We want to put together a mapping resource with these data points. Physical vulnerabilities including sensitive ecosystems will be identified. This will be done by staff and public engagement.

Finally, factors that will inhibit the ability of a resilience plan will be examined. The factors chosen will be those that are most relevant to the region. Categories include built environment, economy, natural environment, government capacity, inequality, and public health. We will evaluate the degree to which the factors will inhibit adaptation to climate events. We want to highlight priority adaptive capacity issues to address the CCAP.

B. CRVA Process

- a. CRVA engagement strategies: Community workshop, surveys, online engagement form, local meeting partners with community-based organizations.

C. Discussion

- a. Questions: How can we make the CRVA more accessible and useful for local governments, community organizations, etc.
- b. What topics should a more in-depth analysis be conducted?
 - i. Discussion at table: Knowing where people live while conducting data/surveys is important since local governments will want to be focused on their residents. Identifying zip codes is important because of the disparity of residents in a city. Community needs are different in different parts of the city. This can be used to identify where the specific concerns in the community are.
- c. One way to have better engagement is using more direct and straight forward language, not as many acronyms. Some residents aren't interested in learning about climate change, so questions need to be more direct. IE how often have you lost power because of severe storms and not how does climate change impact the severe storm frequency in your community.

Another important factor is making data more accessible to the public. This would help people determine what is the risk where I live. One important data point for the public is the energy burden (percentage of income spent on energy costs). Another important data point is power outages frequency. Data can help justify why the city needs to increase the staff on specific teams IE tree maintenance. Age inventory of the tree canopy would be helpful for planning for storms as well as where tree planting needs to be prioritized. Defining neighborhoods (average date built, building code, energy code, insulation).

5. Engagement- Rapid Brainstorm (25 minutes)

- A. How do we figure out what groups are not represented in these discussions. IE rural communities and low-income communities to figure out their needs and priorities.
 - a. Sign-ups were distributed to help to expand the network of climate groups and committees to better represent all community members.
- B. Reflect on the engagement we've conducted so far. What has gone well and what could be improved? What would your community say?
- C. How can we build on PCAP engagement in a way that builds lasting relationships with communities and does not create stakeholder fatigue?
 - a. People don't want to be engaged a lot of the time. They want to vote for people who have more knowledge and can do the engagement for them. They want to outsource. It's harder to get engaged with a plan rather than an opportunity. Plans don't often get enacted. Confusion between the two climate plans. What is the relation between the two plans. Showing previous substantive outcomes from previous engagement. Why would I engage again if nothing came of the past engagement. Workshops have good engagement. Giving people ideas of what to do in their personal life to engage with local government, climate plans, etc. Create a mind map/connected chart of how engagement meetings impacted the plans and actions now. Connect federal funding/grants to community engagement. Tie ideas to existing funding. Connect back with people who have previously engaged and how their ideas were translated to active ideas/funding.
- D. Who needs to be at the table, and how do they prefer to engage? What organizations could help expand our reach into communities?
 - a. There needs to be a balance between previous contacts and people that have engaged versus trying to bring in new people. Use established networks IE use the early childhood development part of MARC and talk about how climate change impacts that. Going into existing community meetings, neighborhood meetings or nonprofit meetings. Turn funding/excel sheets into stories and give people the platform to tell their stories.
 - a. How should we assess the impact of our engagement? What metrics or processes should we use?
 - b. Track repeat engagement. Demographics of people in engagement and compare to regional demographics.
 - c. Other Ideas: Engage with youth. Build future leaders. Engaging with the rural community with language that will best be used for them.

6. Workgroup meeting schedule

7. Next Meeting – July 28, 2024